

Senate bill. It has been my hope that at some time, the leadership of this body would perceive that they had extracted a sufficient level of political currency with the "Move On" faction of their base to, in fact, move on and finally allow a vote on the bipartisan Senate bill. Even though it might not reflect everything I would have crafted in another possible world where my party was in the majority, it nonetheless reflects a sufficient response to the entreaties of Admiral McConnell concerning what is necessary to protect the American people.

□ 1830

However, it does not appear at this point that my hope that the House leadership would find its way has in fact turned out to be the case. Therefore, it is apparent that the remedy afforded by this, the people's House, to overcome obstructionism by those who would thwart the will of the majority of its Members, must be used. The mechanism of the discharge petition to release the bipartisan Senate-passed bill from procedural captivity, unfortunately, must be utilized at this time. This is clearly where a matter of paramount concern to our Nation requires such action and calls us to rise above partisanship.

There is no issue of greater importance to the functioning of government than the need to protect the American people from threats which originate outside of our borders. That is what is involved here: Intelligence collection relating to foreign terrorists outside of the United States. The willingness of this leadership in this body to allow our Nation to lose intelligence is inexcusable. In essence, we have hit the mute button. This failure has been ac-

knowledgeed by both the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence. It is time for us to remove the obstructions which have been placed in the way of foreign intelligence collection in this great institution of the House of Representatives, in which we are all privileged to serve, is honored when the people themselves are served. We must meet our responsibilities as elected Members of this body to ensure that the safety of the American people is secure.

Madam Speaker, there is no excuse for a day to go by that we do not act on this important matter. Unfortunately, 95 days have gone by. Let us act sooner rather than later, and let us act in a spirit of bipartisanship, taking a lead from the other body, even though we don't always like to do that, but taking a lead from the other body, that set aside partisan differences, did not give the administration everything they wanted, but came up with a bill that Admiral McConnell has assured us will work, Attorney General Mukasey has said will work, and that on the Senate side they were satisfied protects the civil liberties of the American people as we seek to listen in on those communications or capture those communications of those who would wish not to join us as Americans but to kill us as Americans.

Madam Speaker, I cannot think of anything that is more important. The sense of urgency must be here. We should act now. We should wait no longer.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legis-

lative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, May 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, May 20 and 21.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, May 20, 21 and 22.

Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, for 5 minutes, today.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on May 6, 2008, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 5715. To ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and families.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 9 a.m., for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-Authorized Official Travel during the fourth quarter of 2007 and the first quarter of 2008, pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, REVA PRICE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 15 AND MAR. 21, 2008

| Name of Member or employee | Date | | Country | Per diem ¹ | | Transportation | | Other purposes | | Total | |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--|
| | Arrival | Departure | | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reva Price | 3/16 | 3/21 | Switzerland ..... | ..... | 2,333.00 | ..... | 8,415.56 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10,748.56 |
| Committee total ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

REVA PRICE, Apr. 17, 2008.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO CHINA, SINGAPORE, AUSTRALIA, AND NEW ZEALAND, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 5 AND JAN. 14, 2008

| Name of Member or employee | Date | | Country | Per diem ¹ | | Transportation | | Other purposes | | Total | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--|
| | Arrival | Departure | | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² | Foreign currency | U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ² |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hon. James E. Clyburn | 1/7 | 1/8 | China | | 410.80 | | (3) | | | | 410.80 |
| | 1/8 | 1/9 | Singapore | | 398.00 | | (3) | | | | 398.00 |
| | 1/9 | 1/11 | Australia | | 1,221.65 | | (3) | | | | 1,221.65 |
| | 1/11 | 1/13 | New Zealand | | 700.50 | | (3) | | | | 700.50 |
| Hon. Bennie Thompson | 1/7 | 1/8 | China | | 410.80 | | (3) | | | | 410.80 |
| | 1/8 | 1/9 | Singapore | | 398.00 | | (3) | | | | 398.00 |
| | 1/9 | 1/11 | Australia | | 1,221.65 | | (3) | | | | 1,221.65 |
| | 1/11 | 1/13 | New Zealand | | 700.50 | | (3) | | | | 700.50 |